

**Provincial Governors Conference at Philadelphia,  
March 15, 1757, Minutes, Letters to Washington and  
Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of  
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Murray Hamilton.**

***Council held at Philadelphia March, 1757.***

Minutes taken at a Meeting of the Governors of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Pensilvania, with the Earl of Loudoun, Commander in Chief of his Majestys Forces in North America began at Philadelphia March 15th. And Continued by several Adjournments to March 23d. 1757.

The Meeting having been Informed by the Earl of Loudoun that there was a Plan approved of by his Majesty of employing the greatest part of the Troops this Campaign to the Northward, and that he had Invited them to this meeting in order to Concert in conjunction with them, a Plan for the defence of the Southern Provinces whilst the other operations were carrying on.

His Lordship further acquainted them that he was willing to leave for the defence of the Southern Provinces, one Battalion, to be Compleated to one thousand Men, And the three Independant Companys in South Carolina of one Hundred Men each which may amount to 200 Effective Men. And that he thought it Necessary for the Security of the whole that the Several Provinces should furnish by the following Proportions.

Pensilvania1400

Maryland500

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Virginia1000

North Carolina400

South Carolina500

Which Joind to theKings Troops1200

Make in the whole5000 men

And the Several Governors, do engage to use their best endeavours with their several Provinces, to raise and Support the above number to Act in Conjunction with the Regular Forces, and under Command of his Majestys General, or the Officer Properly authorized According to his Majestys Regulation.

The meeting taking into consideration the Situation of the Several Provinces, and the Intelligence received from different parts It appears to them, that there is danger of the Enemys making an Attack on the Province of South Carolina, either by Sea from St. Domingo, or from the Alabama Fort in the Creek Indians, on the head of the Mobile, for which reason they have agreed that there ought to be Two Thousand Men Employed in defence of that Valuable Province of South Carolina, and to Secure Georgia And that they should be composed as follows —

Five Companys of Regulars500

Three Independant Companys200

Provincial Troops raised by theProvince of South Carolina500

Provincial Troops from No. Carolina200

Provincial Troops from Virginia400

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Provincial Troops from Pensilvania200

Making in whole2000 men

That the said Troops should be put under ye Command of Lieutn. Colonel Bouquet & transported to Charles Town as soon as Possible the Regular Troops and the 200 Provincial Troops from Pensilvania by Sea from hence,

And the 200 Troops from North Carolina to March by Land —

The Earl of Loudoun on the part of the Crown, agrees that he will at the Kings Expençe Supply the 200 Men from North Carolina, the 400 Men from Virginia, and the 200 from Pensilvania, with the Kings Provisions, from the time they arrive in South Carolina during the time he keeps them there, but that he expected the Several Provinces from whence they are detached, should transport them there, at the expence of the Province, from where they are sent —

And to prevent any mistakes hereafter arising in relation to any demand that may be made, its agreed that the Several Provinces shall Maintain the Remainder of the Troops raised by them for the Service in every article, as on this Occasion they are entirely employed in the defence & for the Security of their respective Provinces

And it is further agreed that we the Governors shall in our respective Provinces take particular care to form such Regulations, and to see them properly executed, that in all time coming Carriages for the transporting the Baggage of his Majestys Troops shall be prepared at stated reasonable rates, and that all the Troops of whatever denomination, either passing through our Provinces, or while in fixed Quarters therein, shall in time of Peace be properly Quartered, and in time of War whatever Number of Troops the Commander in Chief may Judge Necessary for defence or Carrying on the General Service shall be Quartered according to Custom or the Exigencies of Service

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ARTHUR DOBBS The above resolutions are agreed WILLIAM DENNY to by the Severall Governors And Signed ROBT. DINWIDDIE by us in the Presence of the Earl of Loudoun HORATIO SHARPE his Majestys Commander in Chief Signed LOUDOUN

It is further agreed that the Remaining 200 Men to be raised by No. Carolina are to be employed, a Hundred in Garisoning the Catawba Fort & Fort Dobbs on the back parts of the Colony and the other 100 Men in Fort Johnstown the Fort at Topsail Inlet, And the Fort at Beaufort for Defence of their Coast That the remaining 600 of the Virginia Forces, shall be employed in the following Manner one 100 Men to Garrison Fort Loudoun by Winchester 50 Men to be Posted at Fort Enochs to be Built to Secure the Communication between Fort Loudoun & Fort Cumberland—And the Remainder of those Troops to be Posted for the Security of their West Frontiers and 100 Men at the Fort in the upper Tract 100 Men at Fort Dickeson and 100 at Vass Fort and the remaining 100 men to be sent to the Fort lately Built in the Cherokee Country

That the 500 Men raised by Maryland shall be Posted Viz 300 of them to Garrison Fort Cumberland 150 at Fort Frederick and 50 at Cressops to keep up the Communication between these Two Posts